THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): I am not taking the sense of the House... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I am only suggesting, Sir, let us be patient. The most impassioned discussion is over. I am only suggesting that the Calling Attention be deferred till tomorrow... (*Interrupetions*)....

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, if the request of Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta is acceded to that the Calling Attention be taken up tomorrow, then no other business can be taken up today. Rule 180, sub-rule 5 is says: "The proposed matter shall be raised after the questions and the laying of papers, if any, on the Table and before any other item in the list of business is taken up and at no other time during the sitting of the Council." So, no other item can be taken up. According to the Rule Book, only Calling Attention Motion can be taken up and no other item can be taken up. That is the position... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, what I am saying is this. You said from the Chair that the House had decided not to take up the Calling Attention during the Zero Hour and we had a very long Zero Hour. Therefore, the same House could decide to take this up tomorrow. The House can decide it. I am only suggesting. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I have no objection. I am only objecting that the interpretation was wrong.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: My interpretation was not wrong.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Already I have stated that Zero Hour is over. Already I have stated that we will take up the Calling Attention Motion. Now I request Shri S. B. Chavan to move the motion.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE POWER CRISIS IN THE COUNTRY.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Power to the power crisis in the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): Sir, Power shortages continue to persist in most parts of the country. The energy shortage and peak deficit during July, 1997 was 8.3 per cent and 14.5 per cent respectively. The State-wise details for energy and peaking deficit for the month of July, 1997. given in Statement-I (*See* below)

The reason for the power shortage is primarily due to shortfall in capacity addition during the 8th Plan period and also decline in hydel generation during 1996-97.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Are you reading out your Statement?

SHRI YOGINDER K ALAGH: Yes.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: But have you read rule 180 (1)? This is 'Calling Attention to matters of urgent importance', Chapter 14 which says:

> "A member may, with the previous permission of the Chairman, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date:"

So you can make a brief Statement. Your Statement runs into 18 pages. It is not even a Statement. It is contrary to Rule 180 (1).

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, may I just take a minute on this?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): You can tell....

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: No, no; I would like to clarify what the hon. Member, Shri Satish Agarwal is raising. My Statement which is typed in single line is only two pages.

There are a number of annexure which have been given and I would remind the hon. Member that yesterday this issue was discussed with the Chairperson. She said that while giving a Statement you can give supplemental information to the House.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: So will you read only two pages?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: I am reading only two pages. Typed in single line the statement runs into only two pages. The rest are annexures. If you would like to see them, fine; otherwise, you need not necessarily go through them.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: That is all right. Two pages are all right. You can read two pages.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: I am reading two pages.

The capacity addition during the 8th Plan (1992-97) was only 16,423 MW compared to the capacity addition of 21,401 MW during the 7th Plan period (1985—90). The shortfall in the capacity addition was 46 per cent during the 8th Plan period. A detailed note on the proposed capacity addition programme during the 9th Plan, is given in Statement-II (*See* below)

There was also a decline in the rate of growth of electricity generation during 1996-97 compared to 1995-96. The increase in power generation during 1995-96 and 1996-97 was 8.3 per cent and 3.8 per cent respectively. The decline in the rate of growth of power generation in 1996-97 was mainly due to lower hydel generation, whereas Thermal and Nuclear generation increased by 5.8 per cent and 13.1 per cent respectively, hydel generation fell by 5.4 per cent. However, during the last two months there has been a marked improvement in power generation. Electricity generation in June and July, 1997 registered a significant increase of 8.2 per cent and 8.4 per cent respectively over the generation level during the corresponding months of the previous year. Such a high rate of growth in generation had not occurred during the last 21 months.

MEASURE FOR IMPROVING THE POWER POSITION IN THE SHORT RUN:

Realisig that power shortages are likely to accentuate in the next three years as only around 10,000 MW new capacity is likely to materialise and with a view to maximise generation from the existing facilities and acceleratng the completion of ongoing schemes, the Ministry of Power has evolved a short-term strategy. The main components of this strategy are:

(i) Additional budgetary support to Central Sector generation projects for their accelerated commissioning. The supplementary budgetary assistance of Rs. 617.5 crores has been provided for ongoing hydel projects. This amount is intended for completion of the following ongoing hydel projects: Dulhasti, Rangit and Tehri Stage-I. The details of these projects are given in the Annexure.